

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 04382 071322Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 GSA-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15

DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /076 W
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R 062130Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9345

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ELAB, JM

SUBJECT: BAUXITE: ALCAN PLANT CLOSES

1. LABOR PROBLEM CONTINUES TO PLAGUE BAUXITE INDUSTRY, AS ALCAN ANNOUNCED CLOSURE OF ITS ALUMINA PLANT NOVEMBER 3. THE COMPANY STATED THAT UNION ACTIONS AT SCHWALLENBURG MINES HAD CAUSED FAILURE OF EFFORTS TO RETURN TO NORMAL OPERATIONS AND, AS A RESULT, ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF BAUXITE WERE EXHAUSTED. THE COMPANY HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO CLOSE ITS EWARTON ALUMINA PLANT. BAUXITE WORKERS STRUCK SEPTEMBER 22 TO PROTEST SUSPENSION OF TRUCK DRIVERS, BUT AGREEMENT SUBSEQUENTLY REACHED BETWEEN ALCAN AND UNION (NWU) THAT DISPUTE WOULD BE REFERRED TO INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES TRIBUNAL WITH WORK RESUMPTION OCTOBER 3. UNION AND COMPANY HAVE YET TO AGREE ON NEW WAGE SETTLEMENT.

2. KAISER REMAINS CLOSED WITH LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF EARLY SETTLEMENT BETWEEN UNION AND COMPANY UNLESS GOJ CAN PERSUADE WORKERS TO RETURN AS PART OF GOJ/KAISER AGREEMENT TO BE ANNOUNCED IN NEAR FUTURE.
GERARD

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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